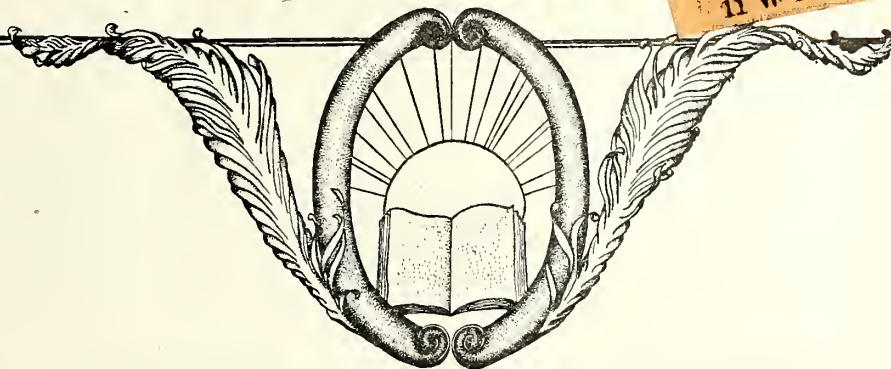


The Christian Sun

State Library
11 W. Hargett St



J. O. Atkinson, Editor.

Price, \$1.50 a Year.

Vol. 64. GREENSBORO, N. C., APRIL 24, 1912.

No. 17.

THE PLEADING SOUL.

Lord, my feeble, trembling soul
Pleads humbly, make me whole,
 'Tis Thee I seek;
Stretch Thy kindly hand to me
And bring me close to Thee,
 I am so, weak.

Merit none have I with Thee,
But Thou hast thought of me,
 In endless love;
Send a beam of light each day
To guide me on the way
 To Thee above.

Then my quickened soul may see
What Thou wilt do for me,
 Weak tho' I am;
And the life made dear to Thee
Shall henceforth be to me
 A pleasing psalm.

When by grief or pain I'm tried
If Thou art by my side
 To hold me up;
With my hand secure in Thine,
Inspired by love divine,
 I'll drink the cup.
—The Rev. Joseph S. Van Dyke.

ORGAN OF THE SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN CONVENTION.

THE OUTER AND INNER.

Blessed are the pure in heart, be they

“‘Jesus had a way of unlocking the casket and examining the jewels at once. The important question was not the costliness and beauty of the casket. The thing which really mattered was the value of the jewel. In the Beatitudes the Master indicates a certain type of character as that which is to be counted of supreme worth. The deepest word He uses in speaking about it in this series of darting epigrams is found in the phrase “the pure in heart.” When a man’s intentions and purposes have been cleansed, then he has been made pure indeed. The difficulty about judging a man by his deeds arises from the fact that he may do good deeds with bad motives. He may do unselfish deeds with selfish motives, but when his heart is pure, then the deeds really express the man. The man of impure motives may see many things, but he cannot see God. Sincerity and honesty at the center of the life form the price we must pay for the vision celestial.”

And now while the toric looms large before us, let it be fixed in the mind that it is neither cowardly, silly, nor sentimental to speak of, and consider, the stubborn fact of death. From the beginning till now brave men, and true, have always taken into account not only the matter and the fact of death, but that life itself was on the verge, and just over the brink was death. One of the bravest of all

There are ships on the sea today that

will escape an accident and a great tragedy only by a hair's breadth. There are a thousand passenger trains speeding to their destination under fearful steam and strain a large per cent. of which number will arrive only after being again and again on the very verge of wreckage or derailment. Ten thousand men are this hour about their daily toil and only by a span do they escape some hidden force, some untoward event, some fatal accident.

Just over the brink, immediately beyond the verge, of buoyant, busy, bursting life lurks that strange and mysterious thing called death; and like a hideous monster or maddened serpent coiled for strike, it may fasten its fangs upon its victim in a moment, and without warning. In certain portions of India we are told that the most poisonous serpents inhabit beneath the most fragrant flowers and often those who are enticed to pluck the latter receive the death dealing fangs of the former.

This is life's dark side. This is the picture in dark, and in uninviting colors upon which we do not like to look. And yet it is a side life. And it is a side upon which all true philosophy must take account. That is only a half account of life, and hardly half, that does not take in also the account of death. For all the lines of life converge to this, and over all life the mystery and the might of death impends. If we are mad enough we may escape life at will. If we are unfortunate enough we may leave it through some unexpected, deplorable event, called accident. If we are wise enough and healthy enough and fortunate enough we may abide life for a season and escape it after many and weary years. But mad, or fortunate, or unfortunate or wise, there is one issue we cannot avoid, one event we shall not escape—that is Death.

And like the brave David, the scholarly Pascal, or the wise Emerson, we best recognize, and take into our account of daily living the eternal, the universal truth, the immortal philosophic fact, embalmed and embodied in the words of ancient Samuel, "As the Lord liveth there is but a step between me and death."

A CALL TO LAYMEN.

The most wholesome and promising signs of the time, in matters that pertain to the church, are the awakening interest and activity of the laymen. Laymen are becoming awakened to their privilege and their power in church affairs and they are doing things. Here has been one sad lack with the churches: laymen have waited for ministers to do church work. That idea is passing and the Laymen's Mis-

sionary Movement, and the Men and Religion Forward Movement are indications that the laymen are taking a hand in church activities. Hail the day! In speaking of the great convention in Greensboro last week of the Men and Religion Forward Movement, the Raleigh News and Observer said editorially:

"The call of every speaker was to the laymen of the churches to be up and doing. One reason why the churches do not go forward with greater strides is because the laymen expect the preachers, assisted by the good women, to do all the pulling, and they have felt that there was left for them little to do except to pay their assessments. The Men and Religion Forward Movement recognizes that that impediment to the evangelization of the world lies chiefly in the indifference or rather the inactivity of the bulk of the laymen in the church and its work and that of the kindred movements is to enlist men in active religious work.

In this connection the editor of The News and Observer received a private letter from a prominent lawyer of Wadesboro in which in substance he said that the address of Governor Jarvis in Wadesboro on Sunday to the assembled Sunday schools of the whole country was an inspiration to all who attended and the writer who is not an active church worker, said:

"If the people could hear such addresses as Governor Jarvis delivered from laymen, they would be more interested in church work, hear more addresses from men like Governor Jarvis. It would do immense good."

This suggestion should go home to every man who belongs to a Christian church and make him feel the burden of responsibility upon him. Writing of the address of Governor Jarvis said:

Governor Jarvis is a great believer in Sunday schools and the influences arising from the religious training of children. He is 76 years of age, is rich in wisdom and experience and his address was earnest and forceful, holding the individual attention of an appreciative audience from start to finish. His last words—probably the very last words some of us will ever hear from his lips—was an earnest appeal to fathers and mothers to take their boys and girls to Sunday school."

Young laymen are following the example of Governor Jarvis and others should do likewise, for ex-Senator Clyde R. Hoey, of Cleveland county, spoke upon the same occasion with Jarvis, and made a strong and able address. If all laymen would follow the example of this venerable layman and young layman there would be mighty revolution in this State for good.

THE CONVENTION.

Before another issue of The Sun reaches its readers the hosts will have foregathered in regular session of our Southern Convention. President W. W. Staley will open the session with the introductory address or sermon on Tuesday evening, April 30th, and from that meeting forth till the close on Friday afternoon following there will be matters of much weight and moment under consideration. The Convention, our highest deliberative body, shapes in large measure the policy of the several conference for the coming two years, and through its several Boards and Committees undertake work that no conference could do.

The Convention is limited in membership, being made up of representatives from each of the seven conferences composing it, which representatives are chosen equally from the ministry and laity. Our educational, publishing, missionary and Orphanage interests are all under direct control of the Convention, and their policies are shaped by action of the Convention.

The homes at Elon College will be wide open to all delegates and visitors, and everything possible will be done to make all who come both comfortable and happy while here. Entertainment will be cordial and Elon people are hoping there will be a full attendance. We join with Dr. Staley in wishing, and in urging that every delegate-elect attend, and as many others as can do so. The session will be worth while.

Come, brethren and friends, and let us rejoice together in the great work awaiting us.

BETTER THAN A "DUN."

We were recently sending out reminders to several of our subscribers whose renewals were due. We asked that these friends should not get angry at us, but send us a love letter in reply, along with a check. We received various and sundry replies, but here is one so novel, and so much enjoyed that we are persuaded to print it:

My Dear Christian Sun:

Such a thought never entered my mind that a religious paper ever craved love letters from its readers, until I received your letter asking me to renew my subscription and write you a love letter.

Since I have found that it is possible for a paper to crave love letters from its readers, I hasten to make known to you the exact state of my feelings towards you.

I have long been one of your most ardent admirers, but did not think you ear-

Continued on page 11.

VICTORIOUS CHRISTIANITY.

Active Christianity is still the greatest power in the world today. It is brilliantly triumphing over all obstacles and is rapidly dispelling mental and moral darkness wherever its light has entrance. If one would see grand object-lessons of its victorious power, let him go into the pagan lands where Christianity has been in operation a comparatively few years. Not long ago, Rev. Dr. A. J. Lyman, of Brooklyn, returned from a tour around the world. In an address before a large number of delegates from congregational churches, he related many facts concerning missionary work in foreign lands, and I quote some of them. He said: "The transition which it took England six hundred years to produce, has taken Japan less than sixty years. The Japanese have adopted European jurisprudence. We find there the telegraph and telephone, a post-office system better than our own, postal banks, journals by the hundred, schools and colleges. The rolling wave which has struck Japan and has caused this complete change in twenty-five years, is striking China, and will certainly produce an equally great transformation. A new China in the new generation is absolutely certain." He also said: "Protestant missions in China advanced more in the first five years after the Boxer uprising than in fifty years before. These are the conditions which impressed me as I saw them in the Levant. Those people are longing for the thing that expresses the Spirit. The Christian school, the Christian hospital, the Christian kindergarten—O, the transforming power of the Christian Spirit, shown in the Christian life—that is the winning, that is the wonderfully prophetic note to day."

What a magnificent argument that is in favor of the conquering and moulding power of Christianity! Here is the logic of great facts. Let skeptics ponder it. They may scoff at the Bible and ridicule Christians, but let them visit the lands which were once in moral darkness and degradation, and see the practical power of victorious Christianity. There never was any true civilization without it.

C. H. Wetherbe.

SUNDAY SCHOOL WORK OF THE SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN CONVENTION.

When our future as a denomination is considered, I am sure that, no more important subject will come before the approaching session of the Convention than the Sunday school department. While the department has made some progress

during the past few years, it has not been commensurate with the faithful and intelligent service rendered and invested, nor with the importance of the work. Plans and service have not been fruitful to any satisfactory degree. With our great territory and possibilities better results should be secured. Some of our best men have written books on Teacher Training for our own use, which have taken their rank with the best, yet unless conditions change these books must remain either in the publisher's office, book store, or shelves of the homes. With all that our editors have written and published from the pens of others, and discussions in Conventions and much correspondence by intelligent leaders, there are only a very, very few Teacher Training Classes, comparatively, or even individuals studying any prescribed course. Similar things and statements may be said about Organized Bible Class work, and other necessary and important Sunday School work. We have adopted high-sounding resolutions in Conventions and Conferences, and up-to-date methods and plans, to sweetly sleep undisturbed until another Convention when they are treated to a little fresh air to keep them alive, and ended enough to keep them quiet. In writing about the situation one brother, who has invested much hard work and demonstrated his interest and ability, says—"There is a loose screw somewhere." Well, that goes without saying, and it is to be hoped that it may be located at the coming session of the Convention and a few turns given it, at least sufficient to enable it to hold something in place. The fact that I am regarded as a "visionary" does not deter, nor cause me embarrassment, here. I do not hope for better conditions working, until we have a Field Secretary devoting his entire time to the work with an office at some central and convenient place. As a "visionary" sees it nothing less will lift the situation out of the rut. While much demands on the kind of man secured I am sure that among the younger men are some possessing gifts in that line, and available. But are we able? That question will possibly be passed around the circle and oft repeated. Yes, we are able. The Sunday School Conventions of the Southern Christian Convention are now raising more money for purposes outside of the Sunday School field than it would require to liberally support such a man in the field. But one says it would hurt our Home Missions interest. Indeed! Perhaps the difficulty, again, is with my understanding, but I can't understand how the development of the Sunday school work to the highest possible point of efficiency, which is missionary in character,

and which proposes to train a church membership in the spirit of loyalty, church attendance, and giving, could even remotely hurt the mission cause. Every dollar invested wisely in the Sunday school work is one of the best contributions to missions. It is to be hoped that no individual, or individuals, would allow their love for local enterprise for the present to stand in the way of a great cause involving the entire church for the future. The cause deserves and demands more than to be constantly "Resolved."

Conventions, resolutions and mails can never take the place of a live Spirit filled man in personal effort among the people, with his hands on the throttle all the time. There is hardly a school in our territory that is not suffering, in some degree, for just such advantages as such an office and man could supply. There is no "Hatchet to grind" back of this, and I am sending it in the crude. The editor may boil it down some, for it will bear it.

Sincerely,

Murdock W. Butler.

RALEIGH CHRISTIAN CHURCH BUILDING FUND.

Dear Friend:

In a few weeks we expect to break ground for our new church. The Christian Church Improvement Society would be pleased to see ten thousand dollars in sight when work begins. Will you help to make it possible by sending your subscription at once to any of the following officers: C. H. Stephenson, president; J. T. Holt, secretary; F. J. Pearce, Treasurer; W. B. Mann, Chairman of Finance Committee, or to L. F. Johnson, Pastor.

Standing of the Fund—

Reported before Easter\$5,144.70
Easter offering 1,655.30

Received since—

W. B. Bagwell	1.00
Dan. F. Bridges	2.50
B. Katzen	1.00
B. S. Jerman	10.00
Jos. G. Brown	10.00
J. C. Saunders	5.00
E. C. Culberth	1.00
S. A. Sutton	.50
Total subscription	\$6,831.00
Total subscribers, 297.	

Many thanks to all who are in sympathy with and are helping the fund.

L. F. Johnson, Pastor.

—The Michigan legislature has voted 75 to 19 to submit to a vote of the people of that State a constitutional amendment granting woman suffrage. The lower house of the New York legislature by a vote of 76 to 27 passed a woman suffrage bill; but the vote was afterwards reconsidered.

ELON COLLEGE LETTER.

A book of uncommon interest to all who are engaged in the work of training youth to correct ideals of life and conduct is that recently published by the Yale University Press for Dr. Henry Parks Wright, who for forty years was Dean of Yale College. To Yale men, of course, this book has the personal interest and charm that naturally gathers round the officers of the institution in which you have had the privilege of studying, but to all teachers who regard their work seriously, to all pupils who wish to take their bearings in the preparation for life their education ought to give them, to all who as parents or friends are interested in the proper development of young people, this book will be inspirational, electrifying.

It is true that it is not a book of fine-spun theories, neither does it offer a gospel of reform, yet the principles it enunciates would reform the educational career of many young persons who are drifting because they do not have a compass nor a chart. The book has a practical title, "From School Through College," and is itself a practical exposition of the problems that confront young people during the four stormy years, years freighted with such enormous possibilities, of the college course. Dean Wright during the long and happy and preeminently successful term of his office in Yale had rare opportunities of knowing student life in its fullness and unlimited opportunity, to judge what would be best for college men in the various activities that bid for their interest. His book, written three years after his retirement to private life and in the enjoyment of the leisure he has so richly deserved, is a summary of his experiences with the portentous problems that crowd upon a dean for solution.

Dean Wright's first purpose in the book is to impress the student on the very threshold of his college career with the richness of the opportunity that is his. Then he sets forth as the main purpose intellectual culture. His third chapter treats of health, recreation, and exercise, the necessity for them and the complete consistency of excellency in them with high scholarship. "If you have a plan of life, and do not think you are studying when you are really dawdling." The chapter on self-discipline is excellent and is a fitting middle chapter to this inspiring volume. The fifth chapter tells of courage and honor. In it Dean Wright shows his high regard for religion and the religious life. "I do not see," he says in the concluding paragraph of the chapter, "how any one can feel satisfied

with a life in which religion has no part. . . . I would that every young man, while in his strength, might know the joy that comes from working in harmony with the Power that makes for righteousness." The social life of the college man has discriminating treatment in the chapter "Among Classmates." The veteran scholar and administrator does not condemn the social life, but he has poor respect for the fellow who makes social standing the reason for attending college. The concluding chapter deals with the college student's plans for the future, and shows that any calling is worthy of the best trained mind, and that what really ought to determine our choice of vocation should be our desire to render the largest social service.

One little inconsistency in the book can be easily overlooked. On page ninety-six the matter of the influence of the college over the moral life is being considered and this statement is made: "When a young man goes wrong, we sometimes hear it said in his defence, that he has been influenced by unfavorable circumstances. People understand that this is no defence, but only a poor apology for the feebleness of his character. . . . As a rule, a man who cannot resist temptation in one college or profession or one city, would not in another." In the chapter on the social life of the college man, page one hundred twenty-seven, will be read this statement: "A company of bad men will be more openly vile than any one of them would dare to be alone, and even one bad friend may easily work a young man's ruin." The reason for this inconsistency of doctrine is that there is a great cry against the large college for its deleterious effect upon character, a cry in which Dean Wright does not take part, because he has always been associated with a large college and feels that he must place the blame not on the college, but on character. In the second quotation, however, he states the universal experience of all who have seen promising young men ruined by evil companionship and vice; the great reason for the denominational small college, removed from the centers of population and vice, where personal contact with godly teachers bears its wonted fruit in Christian character. Experience in the small college and in the great one has taught me the valuable truth, that character nowhere unfolds so ideally as in the small college, and has shown me by many examples of large possibilities wasted that the only safe place for young people, nurtured in Christian homes, innocent of vice and worldliness, during the critical days of college

life, is the denominational college, which exalts Christian character above everything else as the end and aim of all education.
W. A. Harper.

THE AYCOCK MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION.

To the People of North Carolina:

The movement to build a monument to the late Hon. Charles Brantley Aycock, "Educational Governor" of North Carolina, inaugurated under the auspices of "the Aycock Memorial Association," is one the purpose of which should appeal with responsive effect to every citizen of the Old North State, of every age, condition and avocation, for his great work in promoting public education was not limited to any class or caste, but made for the uplift of the masses, that, with eyes to see and ears attuned to hear and minds schooled to comprehend, they might, as painted in his own last words to the people of his State, whom he loved, "enter a new day, the day of equality of opportunity, the hour when every man shall be free to work mightily for himself until his soul, filled to satisfaction, shall overflow with a common benefit to mankind, owing no tribute to any one, and bound only to love his fellowman and serve his God as to him may seem best."

The man who held and advocated such an ideal for the people of his State as a whole deserves that his name, his memory and his life work be perpetuated in such a manner as would be best calculated to vitalize the principles for which he stood in the hearts of the passing generations—through all the tomorrows, "till the last syllable of recorded time."

"Equal! That is the word; on that word I plant myself and my party—the equal right of every child born on earth to have the opportunity 'to burgeon out all that there is within him.'" These, his last words to the people of North Carolina, should be inscribed in perpetual character, not only upon the base of a bronze statue erected to him in the State Capitol, but also upon some permanent educational memorial whose benefits should go down the ages for the help of needy childhood struggling upward to the light. It is the desire and purpose of the "Aycock Memorial Association," to give every man, woman and child in North Carolina the opportunity and privilege of contributing to this memorial fund.

The following constitute the State Association:

CEO. C. FOYALL, President.

Goldsboro, N. C.

MATT. H. ALLEN, Secretary.

Goldsboro, N. C.

B. R. LACY, Treasurer.

Raleigh, N. C.

It is earnestly desired to raise a fund not less than \$50,000, and we see no reason why the fund should not be \$100,000, which would enable us to found such a memorial to Governor Aycock as would be both creditable to the State and an honor to his memory and a benediction to the masses for all time. Very sincerely,

Geo. C. Royall, Pres. Ay-
cock Mem. Ass'n.
Goldsboro, N. C.

NOTES AND PERSONALS.

—Bro. Johnson's Raleigh people still attract the attention of Sun readers as campaigners for funds in a worthy cause. Read what they are doing and encourage their great efforts by sending a contribution. It is deserved and will be well used.

—The Southern Convention at Elon next week—beginning Tuesday, P. M. This promises to be the most interesting and important session of that body in a decade. There are great issues at stake and the combined wisdom of the Church is needed. Whether a delegate or not, come to the Convention and there give and get information and inspiration.

—We are pleased to give notice in our columns of The Aycock Memorial Fund as presented elsewhere from the pen of Mr. Geo. C. Royall, President. We think it can be said without fear of successful contradiction that the most universally loved man in North Carolina was ex-Governor Charles Brantley Aycock, and the people do well to keep alive in their midst and hand down to their children the memory of so good a man and wise a statesman.

—The editor enjoyed a visit to High Point last Sunday and preached at 2:30 P. M. in the Methodist Protestant church by the courtesy and kindness of Pastor Dixon. We have in High Point twenty or more members, some of whom we met and upon whose invitation we went to High Point for this service. There is a feeling that our people should organize for work and worship and looking to this end a committee was appointed with Bro. Carr as Chairman to canvass the field and see how many members there are who would affiliate with an organization if formed.

—Those who read our columns have doubtless noted signs of activity and interest among the churches in various directions. Church building is the order of the day, and worthy and meritorious pleas for help find place in our columns. Winchester, Va., is a deserving point, and Bro. Walters is doing a vast and telling

work there. Portsmouth, Va., has done and is doing great things in church building and equipment. Bro. Harrell and his people are bringing great things to pass. Raleigh is seeking to build and Pastor Johnson and his good people are doing wonders in their campaign for funds. Liberty, N. C., is to rebuild and a healthy and promising subscription list has been started. All of these points are now appealing to the brotherhood and all are meritorious. These numerous pleas are not discouraging, but the opposite, for they signify growth, development, activity at many places.

SUFFOLK LETTER.

According to the list published in The Christian Sun by Rev. I. W. Johnson, Secretary, ninety-eight delegates have been chosen to represent the seven conferences in the Southern Christian Convention which will meet at Elon College on Tuesday evening, April 30th at 8 o'clock. The Eastern Virginia Conference has 32; Eastern N. C. Conference, 18; N. C. and Va. Conference, 18; W. N. C. Conference, 12; Ga. and Ala. Conference, 6; Ala. Conference, 4; and the Va. Valley Central Conference, 8. Provision has been made for the alternates in case principals cannot attend. This ought to secure a full delegation of 98 members present when the Convention opens. There will be some visiting ministers, notably, Rev. Drs. O. W. Powers, Secretary of Home Missions from Dayton, Ohio, and A. W. Lightbourne, of Dover, Delaware. To say nothing of other visiting ministers and laymen this would make an even hundred, or fifty ministers and fifty laymen.

One hundred earnest, well equipped, enthusiastic workers ought to make a great Convention. Nothing can prevent such a delegation except the indifference or neglect of delegates. If delegates overlook this matter until it is too late to notify their alternates to take their place, it will mean a vacancy in the Convention. Be sure to decide whether you will come in time to secure the attendance of your alternate, if you cannot come yourself. One other thing might make a gap in the delegation; that is, for a delegate not to read The Christian Sun either because not a subscriber or not a reader of The Sun; in either case the mistake is inexcusable. No person is qualified to represent his Conference who is not a reader of The Christian Sun, because it is the Convention organ. If you are a delegate and not a subscriber to the "Sun," go to the Convention, subscribe for your church paper and learn something about

what the church is doing and ought to do.

I am using this space on Convention interests again, because I feel that the coming Convention is the most important matter that immediately confronts us. Any one who has traced the history of our church from the little Mount Auburn meeting 1866 to the coming Convention in 1912 must be impressed with the guidance of a wise and beneficent Providence and the loyalty of a devoted constituency. Discouragement has been displaced by hope; embarrassment by modest service. Thousands have yielded to Christ through the ministries of the church; the young have been enlightened through her schools; orphans have eaten at her table and slept under her roof; and the heaven far away have listened to her message of life.

We need co-operation in service, utilization of resources, system in contributions, unity in action, and evangelization as the key to our efforts. The world is waiting for a church without dogma or fanaticism; with sympathy and liberality; with head wise enough to solve present day problems and heart enough to love and die for the lost. The opportunity is ours. Will we waste it?

W. W. Staley.

NORFOLK LETTER.

The meetings at Portsmouth closed last Wednesday night with five accessions to the church. Two of these were by letter. The people gave the very best and closest attention to the preaching of the Word of God. Three young men came forward and one girl. One of these came because unsatisfied with his present experience. Bro. Harrell has an excellent auditorium for speaking purposes and the writer enjoyed being in the services very much. Sunday night one was baptized by sprinkling and one by immersion.

Bro. D. A. Keys reports a fine meeting yesterday. At Rosemont three were baptized by sprinkling. Others were to have been immersed at the river but unfavorable weather caused service to be delayed.

The Memorial Temple is very fortunate in having secured Dr. J. P. Barrett to supply for them during May and also the first Sunday in June. They are looking forward to his coming with much pleasure. Dr. Dennison will arrive the second Sunday in June. The Sunday school of the Memorial Christian Temple yesterday took up a special offering for Rev. W. F. Cumming, the colored brother whom some of you remember hearing and assisting at our Conference in Suffolk last fall. He is still studying diligently at the Norfolk Mission Col-

lege which he entered last fall. Of the money raised by the Conference he receives and sends to his family each month \$12. The offering by the school will be used as a committee appointed by them decides best.

There was an extra good attendance at the Third Christian Church last night. The theme, "Could God Have Prevented the Titanic Disaster?" probably attracted some. The text used was Genesis 4: 9. The speaker affirmed his deep conviction that it is unreasonable to ask God to prevent that which lies wholly within the power of man himself to make adequate provisions against. God is intimately concerned with men's concerns, but real brotherhood and all which that ought to mean will come only as one man shoulders his obligations toward every other man. The great transportation companies are not alone in the guilt for such catastrophes, but every man and woman who without protest risks his life and the lives of others is also sharer of the guilt.

April 22, 1912.

A. M. Hanson.

EDITORIAL COMMENT.

The Titanic.

Her builders declared that the Titanic was the last word in ship building. All that men and money could do to make a great ship had been done.

They believed her to be unsinkable. She represented man's triumph in the ship builder's art.

But at one silent stroke of Nature she went to the bottom.

And as the band played "Nearer, My God To Thee" this mighty mechanism of man's highest skill, entrusted with 1,600 souls, went down silently, sullenly to a watery grave.

The New York World editorially uses this thrilling sentence:

"All the world was marveling at this latest triumph. * * * And behold the event! It is as if the Almighty had again noted the pride of men and that 'now nothing will be restrained from them which they have imagined to do,' and had brought the chastening rod down upon it in this mighty affliction."

Total Abstinence.

The Western Christian Advocate of recent date delves into its files of the past and prints again an interesting temperance document which it printed originally in its issue of August 13, 1861, the late Hon. Edward C. Delavan, formerly Secretary of State of New York, having secured the personal signatures to the document of all the Presidents who had lived during his time. The names give weight to this document and their testi-

mony should be convincing to any young man who reads:

"Being satisfied from observation and experience, as well as from medical testimony, that ardent spirits, as a drink, is not only needless, but hurtful; and that the entire disuse of it would tend to promote the health, the virtue and happiness of the community; we hereby express our conviction that should the citizens of the United States, and especially all young men, discontinue entirely the use of it, they would not only promote their own personal benefit, but the good of the country and the world.

"John Quincy Adams.

James K. Polk.

"James Madison.

Zachary Taylor.

"Andrew Jackson.

Millard Fillmore.

"Martin Van Buren.

Franklin Pierce.

"John Tyler.

James Buchanan.

"Abraham Lincoln."

Marconi.

This is a man to reckon with among the world's great inventors. Every disaster, or threatened disaster, at sea brings his name to the front, and shows the benevolence of his great invention, wireless telegraphy. To over sea wireless Marconi has recently added the domain of the desert to his conquest. He has been in the desert experimenting near Tripoli and now announces that messages can be sent with absolute accuracy across the desert, and without poles. This is an achievement.

Long before the Titanic went down, after having been rent in twain by an iceberg, Marconi messages had been sent from the ill-fated craft, and vessels hundreds of miles away had faced about and were hurrying to the scene of tragedy and danger. And after the Titanic had gone down, and while the rescuing ship was yet four days' journey from the shore the people on land had read in their papers almost a perfect list of those rescued, and knew who were lost.

Marconi's invention is truly wonderful, wonderful as showing more of the mystery, the majesty and the might of this silent, solemn Nature around about us, the outer realm of whose secrets man has just begun to touch.

Olmsted, Le Roy, N. Y.

When Nature Speaks.

Millions stood aghast last week as the details of the Titanic's tragedy came to be known and realized. With one fell swoop more than sixteen hundred people were carried to the bottom of the sea,

and that without hope, without warning. These men and women, an hour before, felt themselves as safe and secure as if they had been at home in their own beds. For was not the Titanic the very largest, the very newest, the very safest ship afloat? And had not the best ship-building material in the world, and the best maritime skill and experience known to man, been employed in her making? And was she not manned by her skilled mariners, tried seamen, experienced sailors? All this is answered readily, and yet the Titanic, indifferent to the fact of her cost of \$10,000,000, and unconcerned about her cargo of \$50,000,000, to say nothing of her precious and abundant human freightage, went to bottom like junk.

It is the old, old story. Man's greatest efforts, achievements and conquests are but nothing when Nature speaks.

Grappling with dame Nature man is indeed, and must ever be, a mere pygmy. Nature's opposing forces make man's mightiest creations a mere soap bubble. We haven't even heard about the iceberg that sent the Titanic to the bottom. Possibly it hardly received a shock, experienced the slightest tremor, was swerved by the slightest degree from its majestic march. Here was man's mightiest mechanism of the sea, the great and glorious Titanic. This opposing iceberg was a mere pebble of the sea in the hand of the Creator. Before the smallest and most meager elements and efforts of nature man is as weak, impotent, helpless as a child. It will not be long and we shall know another catastrophe far excelling in size and horror this of the Titanic. For even tragedies increase in size and proportion. But all will teach the same lesson. The forces of Nature do excel the power of man as the sun in the heavens outshines the candles of man's contrivance. "When I consider thy heavens: the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained; what is man that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man that thou visitest him?" Psa. 136: 4.

We observe with pleasure that the papers are announcing that our distinguished friend and good brother, Col. E. E. Holland, Suffolk, Va., will have no opposition in the primaries for re-election to Congress from the Second Virginia District, a fact long since anticipated by those who know the manner of life, the character, the conduct and the extraordinary ability of this Christian gentleman. If our National Congress were filled with men of this stamp all hints of scandal and corruption would be at once and cease forever.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS and CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR.

Edited by Charles A. Hines, Greensboro, N. C., editorial secretary of the Young People's General Convention.

Motto: A Christian Endeavor Society in each Church; Teacher Training and Organized Classes in each Sunday-School.

The secretary will be glad to give any information as to any of the things the convention stands for and where literature can be obtained. Contributions are invited and every class or society should make frequent reports to the above address.

THE ORGANIZED CLASS IDEA.

The Baraca-Philathea Convention at Salisbury last week, when more than a thousand delegates gathered to take part and hear, is indicative of the wonderful hold that the organized class has taken upon the country. This Convention includes only a part of the organized Sunday school classes of North Carolina, yet there were represented half a thousand classes in which are enrolled thousands of young men and young women. The parade is said to have been a most inspiring sight. Present for the event was Marshal A. Hudson, known as "the Father of Baraca."

It may be said that the idea of class organization has come to stay. The Sunday school is something more than a place to study commentaries. Unless it provides ways and means of carrying into effect the arguments for service to others and helpfulness it has failed of its mission. The church has been preaching the golden rule and the gospel of service to men and women long enough. People are demanding, as they have a right to do, give them less of the abstract and theoretical and let them have more definite and concrete suggestions of going about the work.

The mission of the church is interpreted by the organized classes to be that of going after the "other fellow," of taking an active part in the city and community affairs, in education, in looking after the sick, in supplying a religious flavored social gathering for the namby-pamby affairs with which we have been too long cursed.

If Christ's life teaches us anything it furnishes the lesson that Christian service is just as important as religious discussion and debate. Just as important as the masterful Sermon on the Mount was the feeding the thousands and comforting, cheering and healing the sick.

In the Men and Religion Forward Movement much stress is being laid upon social service, and the sooner the church-

s realize that this is a part of their work the better it will be. It is easier to remove the causes of misery and sin than it is to cure those who have been touched by these things.

The organized class that is really conducted on the right basis, is helping to solve the great questions that are confronting the Church of Christ.

WANTED—LEADERS.

I should like to keep that "want" standing on every page of The Christian Endeavor World for a year to come, until the idea should be burned into the hearts of all its readers.

Wanted—Leaders in every Christian Endeavor society, in every union, in every State organization.

Wanted—Leaders to show the way, to assume responsibilities, to bring things to pass.

Wanted—Leaders who are consecrated and devoted and unselfish.

Wanted Leaders who are not afraid of hard work.

Wanted—Leaders who are not always seeking the back seat and the soft seat and the "easy berth."

Why do some few societies die, or, what is just as bad, live at a poor, dying rate?

Because they lack a leader.

Why are others conspicuously successful throughout a long series of years?

Because they possess a leader.—F. E. Clark.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Since my last report I have received the following amounts:

Western N. C. Y. P. Convention, by	
Joe Stout, Treas.	\$5.40
Providence Chapel, S. S., by Miss	
Maud Bruce	1.20
Moore Union, S. S., by B. J. How-	
ard, Supt.	1.00
Hines Chapel, S. S., by L. V.	
Smith, Secretary	1.00
Pleasant Hill, S. S., by L. I. Cox,	
Pastor.	1.18
New Lebanon, S. S., by L. I. Cox,	
Pastor.	1.00
Total	\$10.78
L. I. Cox, Treasurer.	

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR TOPIC.

Lesson For May 5—"The Christian Virtues—V. Unselfishness." 1 John 3: 10-18 (Consecration Meeting).

It is an easy matter to be a hero when by doing so one may play the spectacular. With a thousand men to cheer and martial music to inspire, men will march unflinchingly into battle and give their lives for the cause of liberty or country. The real test comes when one is called

upon to do the unselfish in the mean and sordid details of every day life. There are men who, like the American Indians, will face death without the loss of nerve, yet will permit and require their wives to do the drudgery while they, able-bodied and strong, sit by and smoke the pipe of peace and the weed of laziness.

There are men who will give a thousand dollars to a civic enterprise, yet are so selfish and unscrupulous that they will falsely represent their wares to make a nickle. And all this because they have cultivated the supreme sin of selfishness. They grasp for money because they are selfish; they give because of an inordinate love of self that creates a desire for the glory a supposedly large gift will give, though as a matter of fact the contribution does not hurt them in the least.

Farrar says: "There is nothing more pitiful than a life spent in thinking of nothing but self." There is a great movement among men to learn the world to regard the "Other Fellow." We are coming to realize our interdependence; and not only this but our inter-relation and our mutual responsibility. The man who would save only himself will not save even himself.

The beacon lights of history are not men who did most for themselves but those who did a great work for their own generation and posterity. Howe and Singer are not great because they made possible a machine that would make money and garments for them, but because they gave to woman the sewing machine to make her life less burdensome and her daily toil lighter. Washington is not loved and revered because he gained his own rewards but because he won independence for a nation. Christ is not loved simply because He had a record of purity to carry to the Father as his own salvation but because he had shed his blood to redeem millions of men in the years and centuries that were to follow.

Unselfishness means charity; charity is love. To be wholly unselfish one must have such a love for humankind that wherever he sees one less happier than himself it will touch his heart and make him ready to help. What a wonderful love was that which Christ had. How great was the sympathy that he had; how willingly and gladly he gave of his healing power, his spirit, even his life's blood in the cause of those he called his brethren.

Thoughts on the Topic.

Show me the man who would go to heaven alone, and I will show you one who will never be admitted there.—Ex.

When you give take to yourself no credit for generosity, unless you deny your-

self something in order that you may give.
—Henry Taylor.

Of all sorts of earthly good the price is self-denial. The lower must be sacrificed for the greater; the coarser give way to the finer. Every step of our progress toward success is sacrifice.—Hitchcock.

Unselfishness is of the heart, not of the tongue; of deeds, not words. It is the mother toiling and suffering for her children; Sir Launfal sharing his single crust with the leper; the widow dressing the last handful of meal and oil for Elijah; Nehemiah refusing the salary legally his; Esther pleading for her people at the risk of her own life; the sinless Christ dying on the cross for the sins of the whole world.

A group of officers that had served in the Crimean war took a secret ballot for the person whom they thought had won the most glory in the peninsular campaign. Every ballot bore the same name: Florence Nightingale, the angel of the Crimea.

Daily Readings.

M., Unselfish Abraham. Gen. 13:7-12.
T., Unselfish Joseph. Gen. 50:15-21.
W., Supreme tests. Rom. 5: 6-10.
T., Friendly service. Dan. 5:17.
F., The greatest thing. I Cor. 13: 4-8.
S., The root of kindness. Eph. 4:31, 32.
Sun., May 5.—Topic.

A CLOUDLESS MORNING.

Even a morning without clouds. 2 Samuel 23-4.

In this world of constant change there are not many days without clouds. Some are very dark, damp, cheerless and gloomy, but the mind is thinking of fairer and better days all the time. Cloudless days have been seen when the sun shone all the day long with his brightest splendor, giving heat, health, and strength to all animated life, and making glad the hearts of millions of human beings who loved to bathe freely in his great light. To look out upon the great things which God had made and beautified with such a great light was very pleasant to realize. Some mornings, and even whole days, are cloudless—not a cloud is seen spreading itself over, and hiding the bright, shining face of the sun.

That was a cloudy morning when you were sick, in trouble, with but little means, and few helping friends. But you had energy, industry and hope for a better and a brighter day. Many, very many, discouraging things came into your way—the way was long, sad, tiresome and so lonely. Then you heard the glad voice of the Eternal One coming over the hills

of time, saying: Behold, I am with you. Then your troubled, anxious heart felt better and joy began to flow into your life. Every one perhaps has passed through the dark night of affliction or want, or distress, or suffering, or great anxiety of mind, or something which perplexed or discouraged him, and when the sweet peace of mind returned how the heart rejoiced with inexpressible gladness. When destitution and need looked at you with a gaunt and vacant stare, and you appealed to some one to assist you over the awful and difficult way how glad, O how glad to meet some friend who said, I will help you. The eyes were brighter, the features played the play of happiness, the tone of the voice more firm and confident, the step more elastic and bounding, and the form more erect as the great heart swelled with emotions too deep and profound to express. Rapture and inexpressible joy filled every impulse of your being as you were filled with delight. And no doubt he who helped you felt so glad that somebody was made happy by him. For when you begin to live for others it helps you to live away up in the higher life away from selfishness. There may be some unworthy recipients of your help and kindness, but keep right on doing good even if your trust is betrayed sometimes. Many who have been helped on in life in many ways often prove untrue, but that ought not to keep you from helping the needy and persisting in doing good to any when in your power. In the whirling, rushing of these active days, it is most important to give a part of our time, means and talents to our Father's cause, and to feel that we, as his children, should honor him all we can. For after labor comes rest; after sickness comes health; after night comes day; after sadness comes gladness, and after death comes immortal life. Weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning light after the darkness has been dispelled. Anguish, remorse, guilt and a thousand imperfec-

tions may be in your life, and you may be under their hurtful influence, but you may emerge from all these things and yet bask in a bright sun-lit morning without any clouds. To entertain the thought, yes, precious thought, of getting out of this darkness into the marvelous light of God ought to inspire the heart and lift it heavenward, causing the soul to rejoice with inexpressible delight. For whole weeks you have been under the clouds, just now and then would the sun gleam out through the parting rifts, while the earth was covered with ice, snow and sleet, and you shivering under their frozen effects, anxiously waiting for the return of clear, mild, pleasant days. And when they did return and presented a morning without clouds how it cheered the heart and brought gladness to the soul.

That was a cloudy morning, O, so dark and dreary, when the angel of death entered your happy home and took from it the idol of your family and the joy of your life. Such anguish was so great it almost cut the breath with its silent and mysterious power, and draped you with sadness so long.

When the heart is sad, tired and torn at each aching repeating throb, you turned your anxious eye towards the eternal hills and said in strains like this: It may not be your way, it may not be my way, but in some way the Lord will provide for us one sweet coming day, and with this hopeful and helpful assurance you went on your way with more encouragement.

Many have realized what it meant to be cloudy so much during the past few months. Shivering in the cold and dampness they were hopefully looking for brighter cloudless days, and when this welcome springtime is seen and felt all around us, how we enjoy its glad return and feel very happy that we have passed through another long, cold winter. May our lives be brighter and sweeter being influenced by the religion of Christ.

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This Department is edited by Mrs.
C. H. Rowland, Franklin, Va., to
whom all items of missionary inter-
est and matter for the Department
should be sent.

AN APPEAL TO OUR WOMEN.

By Millie J. Chapman, M. D.

(The following paper was given by Dr. Millie J. Chapman of Springboro, Pa., at the recent Midyear meeting of the Woman's Board of the Erie Christian Conference held at East Springfield, Pa. She is the newly elected president of the Board and is a potent factor in the various missionary activities of the Conference.—Emly K. Bishop.)

A spirit of Missions is abroad in the land, that is, a desire to send the gospel story, the good news of the Master's Kingdom to those who know it not, whether they are in a neighboring section, in the fastnesses of the mountains, on the frontier, on either coast or across the seas. Time was when only senior women, past the popular age for society, represented the Missionary cause. With the evolution of the years the entire family has been enlisted in this service. Beginning with the Cradle Roll, the Mothers Jewels, and the Glad-gleaners, now the Junior, the Young Ladies, the big brothers at College, and even the revered head of the home are found laboring in the Laymen's Missionary Movement. The cause has reached this stage of popularity in many places, the people give while they live and at death leave bequests to continue the work. Are we, the Christian Church, thus learning, doing, and giving?

Recently at a Woman's Missionary meeting in a not distant state there was an occurrence I am certain you will approve, and would rejoice if the closing feature could be repeated here tonight. A state officer began by saying: "It is not so much your dollars and cents we need, as it is a personal consecration with readiness to sacrifice selfish ease in order to advance the cause of Christianity. Then she reviewed the accomplishments of the past with suggestions for the future and added: We may well be proud of the wo-

men at the head of our National Organization, for their strength and ability has been tested and proven, but we must not let them bear our burdens. She then stated that a school in Japan should be endowed that the principles of Christian living could be taught, while the children were being educated for life's work. That Christ's birth, death, and resurrection should be presented to them in place of the idol worship and heathen customs of the country.

That all the lovely girls, good women and happy homes of this nation were the result of Christian teaching and living all these years and that girlhood and womanhood of Japan could only be improved by the truth and purity of gospel influences. After the necessities of all features had been forcibly presented, the psychological moment came when a timid woman pledged \$100.00 for the fund, another announced \$300.00 followed by \$200.00 from her neighbor. Then a devoted woman could only silence the claims upon her by a pledge of \$5,000.00, which inspired a friend to say, "add \$2,000. for me." Then a burst of enthusiasm came upon ten women to unite in giving \$1,000.00 more. Some young girls said ten of them would give \$2.00 each. A larger set said ten of them would pledge \$5.00 each. In less time than I have taken to tell you the \$20,000.00 endowment was made certain.

These devoted people, a consecrated praying band, gave as they had been prospered after knowing how, why and where to give. Consecration, knowledge, willingness, were their watchwords. I know of a smaller body of women equally devoted and in earnest for the advancement of the Master's Kingdom. Their lines had been hard, the burdens heavy and the income small. They were blessed with the acquaintance of a Home Missionary on the frontier. He labored early and late to lift up and lead to better living the men whose migration West had led them into reckless ways and for the time an abandonment of the home training. The dissipation and gambling of mining towns and lumber camps had so marked the characters that only a Home Missionary could see reason for efforts in their behalf. Meantime his own wants and privations increased until he was compelled to appeal for a box or barrel from the Missionary Society. The plea was assigned to the church best acquainted with the missionary. After prayers for guidance by these earnest women there began an accounting of resources. This supply must come from a voluntary fund. One gave

the price of a day's work, another donated a pound of butter, the next, two dozen eggs. Self-denial caused one to sell an article of furniture that could be spared, a fowl was sold to add to the fund and when no more could be sacrificed an appeal to non-members finally secured sufficient to purchase suitable material to fill the box. From an apparently impossible source this faithful laborer on the outpost was provided with material needs. These women gave as they had been prospered to sustain and extend the blessings of the church. Do we follow their example? Do we care for the struggles and triumphs of those who leave home and friends to meet opposition, persecution and want in their efforts to bless those who know not Christ and his Church?

This Woman's Board (of the Erie Christian Conference) grew out of plans made at a session of the Erie Christian Conference held at DeWittville, New York, September, 1896. Improvement in the organization has been made from year to year. The members have labored the best they knew. Dues of fifty cents each have been paid, the income from local societies added has been divided between Home and Foreign Missions. Life memberships have aided the Boston work. Contributions for the Orphanage at Elon, and for Franklinton have frequently been made. Special work has been undertaken. The Arus Chapel was made possible by our efforts, but more is needed there. The native teacher this year in the middle field in Japan was made possible by our support. Shall we continue or may we do more than ever because of a clearer vision of duty and privilege?

Do we remember at the throne of grace our missionaries who carry the gospel where we cannot go? Are we giving as we have been prospered, for the cause? Are we making bequests of our material funds when no longer needed for our own support? Are we studying, and training leaders in the home church to make the strongest support for agents afield? Are we praying and laboring to make latent possibilities present day facts? Are we dividing our dollars and dimes for the benefit of Japan, Porto Rico, Boston, Franklinton, and frontier work?

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Begun on page 3.

ed to know it, but as you do, I must tell you that my long silence has not been of indifference. I have enjoyed your columns for many years, and your bright rays have cheered many long hours that would have been spent in gloom but for your optimistic presence. Although I had not thought of it, I suppose that after going through the rough processes of a paper mill and a printing press, you feel that you have a right to solicit love letters from your readers. Poor Sun! I guess you do feel neglected sometimes. Now, let me assure you that you have many ardent admirers all over this bright land of ours, who, like myself, have never thought of telling you of it, and if they did that kind hearted Editor of yours would not have room to print anything else for many days. I hope, dear Sun, that you will never doubt my love again, and, if at any time I should fail to renew my subscription, you may attribute it to a lean packet-book and not to indifference.

I remain one of your most ardent admirers.

(Mrs.) P. A. M.

Hester, N. C.

WESTERN WOMEN IN EASTERN LANDS.

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"Western Women in Eastern Lands" is the tenth in a series of text-books issued by the Central Committee for united study for the use of Women's Missionary Societies. This inter-denominational committee was appointed at the time of the Ecumenical Conference in New York in 1900. The outline studies which they have issued yearly have had a very large and increasing sale.

"Western Women in Eastern Lands" gives in a thoroughly popular way, the story of the growth of these fifty years. It traces the development from one society to forty, from a few thousands to nearly four millions of contributors annually, and from one missionary on the field to an army. The movement is sketched on the background of the enlarged activities of women during the nineteenth century. The educational movement under Mary Lyon, anti-slavery, suffrage and temperance are all disposed of as parts of the movement.

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Clearville, Pa.

It was my privilege to worship with Rev. W. T. Walters and the Christian church in Winchester, Va., March 24th. Heard Bro. Walters preach a solid, old-fashioned, gospel sermon. When you preach a Bible sermon you preach a whole gospel, and Bro. Walters preaches no other kind. In the evening the writer tried to tell the old, old story of Christ and salvation through Him. "Thou shall call his name Jesus, for He shall save His people from their sins." And when he saves them from sin, surely all sin is meant. The writer never preached a sermon in all his ministry but what he preached a whole gospel, and Christ as Saviour, able and willing to save from all sin all who would accept Him as their personal Saviour and confess Him before men, and obey His commandments and follow him through life. The congregation was not as large as usual in consequence of the day being very inclement. Yet the congregations were fair at both services.

Now I wish to mention one thing that

is both commendable and praiseworthy in this congregation to both pastor and church. I wish that all pastors and Christian churches in the denomination would do likewise. All the literature used in the Winchester, Va., Church comes from our own publishing house, both in church services and Sunday school. My me; but it made me glad when I saw this. I felt like saying, Amen and amen. Surely Bro. Walters has done a wonderful work in Winchester and he is respected and held in high esteem for his unswerving loyalty to the church of his choice. On Thanksgiving day he preached the Thanksgiving sermon in the largest church house in Winchester. What the world wants and expects is men with honest convictions who are not afraid or ashamed to hold them up to the world; not as a bigot sending all to perdition, who do not see and believe as he does. I can see but little difference between a Catholic Pope and a Protestant egotist and bigot. Can you? Yours for Christ and the Christian Church.

J. H. Baruy.

—Beware of the first drink.

THE CHRISTIAN ORPHANAGE.

Rev. Jas. L. Foster, Editor, *Elon College*.

Officers of the Orphanage.

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Elon College, N. C., April 17, 1912.

My Dear Children and Friends:

The sunshine has come and the days grow long and warm and now the farm boys are beginning to put in full time. School closed today and the boys and girls have turned out their feet and will go to the fields for the planting of crops.

We will try to group our boys for better work—appointing "little captains" or "bosses." This is to be done where we are compelled to send to different parts of the farm for work.

We are sadly disappointed at the persistent silence of our "Cousins"—wake up and give us a full Corner!

We have no more numbers taken of our 15 \$50.00 friends needed to cancel the mortgage. Say, church people, is it possible that there are only 5 persons out of 20,000 who can spare us \$50.00 towards paying off the mortgage? We have

5, will you be one of the 15 needed, and thus close up the entire matter. Write me at once!

We are grateful for the dollars on the \$660.00 indebtedness and trust that they may come in till we can pay every dollar due. Won't you please send the Orphanage a dollar by return mail so it may get in before the Convention meets?

The following children were received this week—Monday, April 15, Patrick and Samuel Carroll, Garner, N. C. Tuesday, April 16, Edith and Irwin Parker, Berkeley, Va. Yours for service,

Uncle Jim.

AMONG THE CHURCHES.

Wadley, Ala.

I will try to write a few lines from my field of work. On the first Sunday we are at Christiana. Because we have no heater here, and because of the very severe weather we discontinued our Sunday school, but have reorganized now. We have a few who are faithful and we expect right much of this church yet in Christian work. The second Sunday in this month we held our regular church service at Rock Springs, the first since December, but despite the cold winter the church spirit has been felt among the members of this church and community. They have removed the old roof, raised it higher and put on a new roof. This gives it a neat and more modern appearance. At the close of the service, the last one enjoyed by all present, we raised enough money to paint the house. This we are anxious to get done before our next meeting which will be our annual memorial day. Rev. G. O. Lankford will be with us and preach the memorial sermon on Saturday. The third Sunday finds us at McGuire's Chapel. We have faithful members'hip and congregation here that gives good attention to the preaching of the Word.

Bethany is located in a very fine section of country, has some good members and will some day, we think be a strong church. I am earnestly trusting and praying that this may be a successful year with us and that many souls may be added to the church.

Apr. 19, 1912. C. W. Carter.

Portsmouth Letter.

Revival services began at the Washington Street Christian Church on Easter Sunday night and continued until Wednesday night of the following week. The meeting was well attended and the interest good from the very start. There were a number of professions and at the close

of the meeting five came forward and joined the church. Rev. A. M. Hanson, of the 3rd Church, Norfolk, did the preaching throughout the meeting. His sermons were clear, forceful and well received. They won for him a way into the hearts of his hearers. The church has been brought closer to the Lord and we pray that she may live upon a higher plain and the good fruits of the meeting may be seen after many days.

Easter Sunday was a day full of interest to the Portsmouth Church. It was observed as parents' day in the Sunday-school and the morning service was for the benefit of the children. The Sunday school marched into the auditorium by classes and was seated in a body. Beautiful souvenirs were given all who attended the services. The Easter sermon was to the children. The choir provided an excellent musical program for the occasion, which was beautifully rendered. It was interesting to note the marked attention of the children throughout the service, which covered something like an hour and a half. We are of the opinion that a larger place should be given to the children in our church services. They should be trained to attend the church service as well as the Sunday-school session. How can this be done? The service closed with somewhat a novel Easter offering. It was an offering that was counted in eggs, instead of in dollars and cents. All were asked to buy as many Easter eggs as possible at five cents each, and were also requested to sell as many as possible at the same price. The eggs however were printed and not the eatable kind. Nevertheless they sold good and when the offering was reckoned up we found that 8,000 had been sold and we had an offering that would pay out possibly over \$400.00. It took \$344.50 of this to pay six months' interest on our church debt. We were aiming at a \$500. offering which would have enabled us to bring our debt down to an even \$11,000.00. We would have been glad if this could have been done.

The church has just been the recipient of a handsome individual Communion Service which was used for the first time at the last communion service. The service was donated by Mr. and Mrs. R. R. Wood, of this city. We wish to express our high appreciation of this gift and return to them our sincere thanks. May the God of heaven abundantly repay them in the good things of this life and that which is to come.

The Southern Christian Convention is drawing near and we are trusting that it may plan well for future work. We need a larger vision of the call that comes

from the great Head of the Church. Shall the convention launch a church extension loan Fund and lay plans for the operation of the same? It is the conviction of many that such should be done at the coming convention. Such a fund is greatly needed and must be had if we would enter the fields that are opening to us and would fill the large place that God would have us in the evangelization of the world. The great Head of the Church open the way and make us willing to undertake.

J. W. Harrell.

Valley Letter.

Time passes swiftly on, never waiting for the one that is busy or late or tired. A few months of cold and snow and ice have quickly passed by and now the sun smiles upon us again arousing dormant vegetation to life and growth again. April showers are also performing the part of the work just now, and nature seems glad and refreshed. During the winter months our work suffered somewhat in consequence of the cold, snow and mud. We hope now to be able to do better work than has been possible for a while past.

I trust that I am not too much out of date when I mention that about Christmas time some of my churches remembered their pastor with substantial and much appreciated gifts. Antioch and New Hope presented theirs in the form of good old cold cash while Linville and Bethel gave articles of beauty and usefulness. Along with these were many other expressions of good will, all of which are very much appreciated, and help to brighten up a preacher's pathway, and make him wish he was more worthy of such marks of esteem, and that he could do more for his people.

Linville and Bethel each prepared and executed an excellent Christmas program. In each case a large crowd was present and the occasion very much enjoyed by all. At each of these churches we have some splendid material to make an occasion of this kind a success.

I held the revival meeting at Beulah in February. There were seven conversions and six additions to the church. Here I was assisted in the music by Bro. A. P. Liskey of the New Hope congregation. Miss Minnie Bowman, from Linville, also assisted a few nights in the meeting. The church at this place grows rather slowly and is yet weak. A few years ago and for several successive years only one member was reported to Conference. There are now sixteen. There are a good many non-church members in the community, and we hope the little church may be a soul-winning power among them.

I had arranged to hold revival meetings

at Bethel and Dry Run immediately after the meeting at Beulah and thought to finish up about the first or second week in April. However, ill health compelled me to postpone those meetings. I hope to hold them both in May.

By the time these few lines find place in the columns of The Christian Sun, (if they do not find a place in the editor's big waste basket instead) many of our people will probably be about ready to turn their faces toward that Mecca of the Christian Church, South, viz.: Elon College, for the purpose of engaging in a session of the Southern Christian Convention. The Convention will no doubt mean much to our cause, and God grant that it may! To many of us a visit to Elon is next to a visit home. I am always glad for the opportunity of such a visit.

A. W. Andes.

Harrisonburg, Va., April 17, 1912.

MARRIED.

Brady-Moore.

On the evening of March 29, Mr. Early Astor Brady and Miss Julia C. Moore were united in marriage. The groom is a son of J. A. Brady of Ramseur; the bride was a teacher in the schools of Ramseur and the teacher of the Philathea class in our Sunday school. Best wishes from many friends are extended to them for a long and happy life together.

T. E. White.

Parks-Cox.

At the home of the bride's parents, March 27, 1912, Mr. M. Grady Parks and Miss Fannie Allene Cox were united in marriage by the writer. The attendants were Mr. Geo. H. Parks with Miss Mary Parks; Mr. F. P. Parks with Miss Annie Lee Dorsett. After the ceremony a sumptuous dinner was served. The afternoon and evening were spent in the home of the groom's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Isaac W. Parks where another table loaded with the best of well-prepared food was ready at our coming. The day was beautiful and full of joy. May the life of these young people be long and happy.

T. E. White.

DIED.

Lockaney.

At his home in Harnett County, North Carolina, March 11, Robert Lockaney, about 76 years old. He leaves a wife, son and daughter, a sister, brother, other relatives and many friends to mourn their loss. He had for many years been a faithful

deacon of the church at Christian Light. May God bless the relatives and friends whose hearts have been made sad. He was buried at Baptist Grove Church where the remains of his first wife sleep.

W. G. Clements.

King.

John Richard King was shot at Norlina, March 26th, and died an hour and a half afterwards on his way to the hospital at Petersburg. The tragedy occurred just as Bro. King's train, northbound, was fixing to clear Norlina. He, being the flagman, discovered a hobo on one of the cars, and ordered him to alight, when a pistol shot rang out and Bro. King fell mortally wounded. He was 36 years old and was married to Miss Beulah McKey Reynolds of Merry Oaks, last September, by the writer, who also conducted his funeral at New Hope Christian Church, March 28. He was a member of the Jr. O. U. A. M., also a member of the B. T. R. He leaves to mourn their loss a dear wife, a father, three brothers and seven sisters. Brother King had been a member of New Hope Christian Church ever since he was a boy and was looked upon as a faithful Christian man.

May our heavenly Father comfort the bereaved ones.

G. R. Underwood.

Sanford, N. C.

Blöse.

William P. Blöse was born February 7, 1836, and died at his home, near Harrisonburg, April 5, 1912, making his age, therefore, 76 years, 1 month and 28 days. Bro. Blöse had been in declining health for several months and during that time suffered a great deal. Death came and silenced the pain in the mortal body and set the spirit free to go back to the God who gave it. He leaves in mourning his widow, with three sons, and four daughters. He is also survived by one sister. Deceased united with the German Reformed Church at the age of 15. After the Civil War he united with the Christian Church. At the time of his death he held his membership with the church at New Hope. He was a native of Rockingham County, Va., and spent his entire life there except four years which were spent in the Civil War. It was my privilege to be at his bedside several times during his last illness. He seemed to have no fears as to the future, and expressed himself as willing and ready to go whenever the Lord should see fit to call him. The funeral services were conducted Sunday afternoon, April 7, 1912, from the Methodist Church at Keezletown, and the remains buried in the cemetery nearby. The writer was assisted by Rev. H. C.

Moore, a former pastor of the deceased. The beaved are commended to the Father of all mercies. A. W. Andes.

Bowman.

April 5, 1912, was a sad day in the home of Mr. and Mrs. William Bowman at Linville, when their youngest son, David Andrew, breathed his last. David had been sick only a few weeks, and the nature of the disease almost from the first foretold that recovery was doubtful. During those days of anxiety relatives and friends kept close to his bedside, and all was done that could be done for his comfort and restoration, but the hand of the death angel could not be stayed. The vacant place in the home is keenly felt, and more especially so as David had spent his entire life at home, always taking much interest in the home affairs, and always doing his part towards making the home life happy for all. He was kind and agreeable and could always be depended upon. Upon him would the parents naturally lean as advancing years should creep upon them, but God saw fit to take him home to Himself. In this we are forcibly reminded that "His ways are past finding out." David was born April 17, 1891, and died at the age of 20 years, 11 months and 18 days. He united with the Christian church at Linville four or five years ago and remained a consistent member until his death. He is survived by his parents, two brothers, Homer and Moses O., and three sisters: Mrs. Carrie Cook, Mrs. Amelia Bell, and Miss Minnie. Funeral services were at Linville on Sunday, April 7, at eleven o'clock. May God comfort the sorrowing!

A. W. Andes.

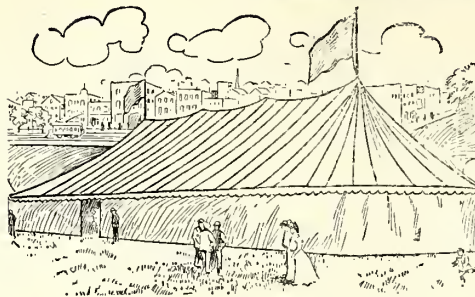
Garrison.

Robt. J. Garrison, son of Jno. G. and Lucinda Garrison, departed this life at his home near McRay, N. C., April 13th, 1912, aged 66 years, 10 months and 5 days. He was married Feb. 20th, 1868, to Mary J. King. Born to them were six children, four of whom are living. His wife, one brother and two sisters survive him. He had been a member of Union Christian Church since 1869. He served in the Civil War 26 months, Company C., 4th Regiment, and was captured at Bentonville, N. C., and imprisoned at Point Lookout. By his request his oath of allegiance and parole was read at his funeral and interred with his body.

He was a kind and peaceable man and had many friends. He died in peace, trusting his Saviour.

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A NEW SPRINGTIME.

"The winter is past, the rain is over and gone; the flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds is come, and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land." (Sol. Song). And with the coming of these days come lovers' hours and the host of loving "rhymers," "annual poets;" come the philosopher's haunts and the young student's walks: to some merely pleasanter times, and to

many a new life through new thoughts.

Sidney Lanier, our American, as well as Southern poet, whose life and words alike are beautiful and good, wrote:

"As the marsh-hen secretly builds on the watery sod,
Behold I will build me a nest on the greatness of God:

I will fly in the greatness of God as the marsh-hen flies

In the freedom that fills all space 'twixt the marsh and the skies;

By so many roots as the marsh-grass sends in the sod

I will heartily lay me a hold on the greatness of God:

Oh, like to the greatness of God is the greatness within

The range of the marshes, the liberal marshes of Glynn."

Many have written as beautifully, none purer words than these. It has been the business of the poets, even the greatest and the lowliest, the Galilean, to sing of nature and bring spring time into the soul. All have idealized and often soared above the ken of man; many have had hearts "heavenly-sweet and earthly-sweet:" all the true ones have sung of heaven in terms of the lilies and birds, hills and seas; of the earth in terms of a New Jerusalem whose streets are of gold and whose light is from the Everlasting. The viewpoint of the Nazarene was infinitely greater than the best of ours; and so have been the viewpoint of all poets; but the real spring time in our hearts depends no less upon our own individual view point, upon our attitude toward the world.

We are told that it isn't the earth that causes the grasses to grow and the thousand of flowers to spring from the ground: that the earth in itself doesn't give us the harvest and the time of reaping; but that the earth must get in the right angle or attitude with the sun before we have the seasons. The potentialities of growth are here, but the great sun alone gives life. And when we consider the lillies, their language to us depends upon just an attitude.

From the vegetable to the animal life is a great step, but when we come to an admiration of our dogs and cats and horses and a hundred other pets we come nearer to our own nature; for at best there is some of the animal in each of us. While we are told to learn from the ant which is diligent to prepare for winter; to build upon the rock, as the conies; yet there is such a thing as going to the extreme in laying away for rainy days and for old age. We can soon get the animal point of view, and he little more than an ant. Walk into the woods one of these mornings; you may see the fat, sleek

squirrel darting about. He worked through the summer, laid him up stores of nuts; and through the winter lived the lazy sleepy life. There are not a few men doing the same thing, only they are laying up for the future years—they have the animal attitude toward life. They are squirrels. It is good to be thrifty and all that; but if it is simply an ant proposition one had better sell what he has and give it to the needy.

The lazy alligator lives longer than most animals and he would, therefore, be above the spūrel or ant and more worthy of man's emulation. Mere existence is the purely animal life, and, although fashionable beings build palaces for their pets, the dog will remain a dog. The fuzzy, wooly lap-dog nestled against a bosom of silk, I imagine, does not cause envy in a brother dog's eye but rather pity that he is in such company. That old chimpanzee must have been embarrassed when the Newport Set gave a ball in his honor; still he knew he was an ape and could not have thought but that they were trying to be as he. Mere existence is the thought of many men; to the animal it is nature. Matheuslah lived, or existed, at least, more than nine hundred years; and that is all you may find said of him. He is noted for living a long time. We have animals in our menageries today that are famous for their age.

The very commonest of birds, the little old English sparrow, builds for itself a home that in wormanship transcends the ingenuity of man. The Creator gave the animal power of self-perpetuation: He gave man much more. He speaks through his world which He has made as beautiful as possible, but his messages must be meant for the heart; and the flowers and birds, after all, must have been made to emphasize man's dignity and divinity. And at that angle we are at once earthly and heavenly—mortal and immortal.

It is a sad comment that we spend our time and brains in the culture of the finest flowers; that we exercise so much care in the breeding of our cows and hogs and horses, and pay so little attention to the breed of human life, to the stock of future generations of human beings.

So, however we look at the spring time of the natural world, the spring time of the heart depends upon the attitude we assume. The lessons that we get, too, depend upon the view point we take.

Alonzo C. Hall.

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If you are a Christian, the devil will never get in front of you unless you turn around.

If the earth were covered with flowers all the year round, the bees would get lazy.

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Organ of the Southern Christian Con-
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Entered as second-class matter at the
post-office at Greensboro, N. C.

Printed every Wednesday. . Terms of
Subscription.

One Year - - - - - \$1.50
Six Months - - - - - .75
Four Months - - - - - .50

J. O. Atkinson, Editor, Elon College, N. C.

The Office of Publication is Greensboro,
N. C., 302½ S. Elm St. The Editorial
Office is at Elon College, N. C., as hereto-
fore, to which office all communications
for the editor should be directed.

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